

REMARKS

The examiner continues to reject pending claims 1-22.

Applicants' have cancelled claims 1-22 and added new claims 23-36 to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the applicants regard as their invention. No new matter was added.

It is believed that all of the pending claims have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this paper should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this paper, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

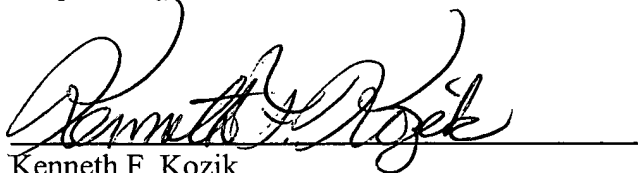
Applicant asks that all claims be examined in view of the amendment to the claims.

Enclosed is a \$980 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

October 13, 2004



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